

(c) The Indian industry has been defending the Anti-dumping and Countervailing cases initiated against the import of steel plates. The Government has been supporting the cause of Indian exporters and has taken up the matter with these countries at various forums.

Facility of Free Movement to the Specialists

***1553. DR. D. MASTHAN:**

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to hold talks in World Trade Organization on the issue of providing facility of free movement to the Specialists in the world;
- (b) if so, Government's plan in this regard;
- (c) whether Government have talked to other countries also to persuade WTO to agree on this issue; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (b) Mandated negotiations in Services have commence this year in the WTO. These negotiations will cover all the four modes in which trade in services take place, including Mode 4 relating to movement of natural persons. The free movement of specialists is also covered under Mode 4. These negotiations are still at a preliminary stage. India will push for further liberalization in Mode 4 especially for professionals and specialists. The Permanent Mission of India to the WTO, based in Geneva, is in regular touch with the delegations of other countries on this issue.

News Item Captioned 'Major Indian Products Still Facing EU Import Restriction'

***1554. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:**

[†] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the daily 'Observer' dated 17th July, 2000 under the caption, 'Major Indian Products still facing EU import restriction;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that there is still a restriction on the import of many products manufactured in India, in the countries of European Union;

(c) if so, what are these products and the type of restrictions imposed on their import; and

(d) whether these restrictions are not against the conditions of World Trade Organisation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (b) Yes Sir.

(c) Indian exports to EU markets face a variety of market access barriers. These include quotas in the textiles sector, anti-dumping/anti-subsidy actions, SPS/health regulations in respect of agri/marine products and standards/labelling requirements.

(d) These and other such trade policy measures of the European Union are kept under a watch in order to ascertain their compatibility with WTO Agreements and where necessary, they are taken up with European Union bilaterally and for specific cases in Dispute Settlement Body of WTO.

Bringing the Import of Products in Non-Restricted Area

[†]1555. **SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:**

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trade in the country has been affected

[†] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.